

April 15, 2021

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION MEMO**

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

From: Paula Boggs Muething, City Manager 

Subject: **City Hall to Partially Reopen 4/19/21 for Limited In-Person Attendance at Council and Committee Meetings; Options for Remote Participation Will Continue**

Amended Joint Emergency Order No. 14, which temporarily suspended in-person public meetings at the City, will expire by its terms on Sunday, April 18, 2021. Beginning on Monday, April 19, 2021, City Council Chambers will be open to the public for the limited purpose of attending City Council and Council committee meetings. The City will enforce maximum capacity restrictions for in-person participation in accordance with ongoing COVID-19 protocols. Members of the public are encouraged to continue to provide public comment and participate in Council meetings remotely via Zoom. Options for remote participation will continue to be coordinated by the Clerk of Council.

Members of the public attending a Council meeting in person will be required to wear masks and socially distance at least six feet away from others while inside City Hall. The public will be required to be seated and masked in accordance with State health orders except as necessary to make public comments or otherwise testify in the meeting at the request of Council. City Hall security staff will monitor attendance and limit entry once capacity is reached.

The reopening of City Hall for City Council meetings is an initial step in the Administration's plans for reopening City offices to in-person business, but City departments and offices located in City Hall remain closed to the public until further notice. The City Manager's Office is working with the Cincinnati Health Department and all City Departments on the safe reopening of all City offices, including in City Hall, Centennial Two, and other City locations that have been restricted or closed to in-person business. Similarly, the City Boards and Commissions are to work with the City Administration on a case-by-case basis to assess the capacity of each public body to safely accommodate in-person public participation. We will continue to keep you updated regarding this matter.

The City plans to have remote-working employees back in the office by July 1.

Please let me know if you have additional questions.

cc: Andrew W. Garth, City Solicitor